

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1769

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REOPENING OF PERIODICAL "CARETAS"

REF: LIMA 7198

1. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION ON THE REOPENING OF THE TWELVE MAGAZINES CLOSED ON JULY 2, GOP PRIME MINISTER ARBULU STATED, IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PABLO PIACENTINI OF MEXICO'S "EXCELSIOR" (AUGUST 8), THAT "THEIR REOPENING WILL TAKE PLACE AT A CONVENIENT TIME AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR POLITICAL LEANINGS".

2. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT ENRIQUE ZILERI, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED MAGAZINE "CARETAS", RECEIVED A CALL AUGUST 8 FROM A DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION, INFORMING HIM THAT HE COULD REOPEN HIS MAGAZINE AS OF SEPTEMBER 16.

3. "CARETAS" HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE MARCH 20, 1975, AND ZILERI EXILED UNTIL MAY OF THIS YEAR. SINCE THAT TIME HE HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO REOPEN. IN AUGUST HE ERRONEOUSLY FELT HE HAD A "GREEN LIGHT". NOW HE IS CONVINCED.

4. ZILERI HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT HE IS PREPARING AN ARTICLE ON THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT BY THE GOP. IF ZILERI GOES AHEAD WITH THIS STORY WHEN "CARETAS"

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REAPPEARS, AND DEPENDING ON HOW IT IS PRESENTED, IT WOULD BE

AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE EXTENT OF GOP TOLERANCE FOR AN
INDEPENDENT PRESS. CARETAS MIGHT PRESENT THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE
IN A FAVORABLE LIGHT. ZILERI OPINED TO EMBOFF THAT THE GOP
WOULD SHOW ITSELF TO BE A WILY NEGOTIATOR IF IT COULD SECURE
BOTH BANK LOANS FROM THE WEST AND AIRCRAFT FROM THE SOVIETS.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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